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Forest Service Library

DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST MONTANA



A quiet spot on Twin Lakes Creek.

F-189243

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE NORTHERN REGION

OUR NATIONAL FORESTS

Our national forests were created primarily to insure a perpetual supply of timber, to help regulate streamflow through preservation of forest cover, and to provide for the highest use of all the forest resources in the public interest.

The national forests altogether constitute the largest farm in the world; a managed farm on which trees are grown, and harvested, and grown again, much as corn is cropped in Iowa, or wheat in the Dakotas and Washington, or cotton in the South.

Embracing more than 162 million acres, these national forest tree farms are located in 32 different States and the territories of Puerto Rico and Alaska. Most of them were created by Presidential Proclamation from forested public lands in the West, under an act of Congress passed in 1891. In the Lake States, the East, and the South, however, national forests were developed largely by land purchases, also specifically authorized by Congress.

Mature timber on the national forests is harvested at such a rate and in such a manner as will insure perpetuation of the crop and the industries dependent upon it.

TIMBER

When the Mayflower dropped anchor off Plymouth Rock in 1620, there were, in what is now the continental United States, virgin forests since estimated to have contained 5,200 billion feet (board measure) of timber. Today only one-quarter of those virgin forests remain; less than 10 percent (of the original 5,200 billion feet) is still in public ownership.

In the whole United States, outside the national forests as well as in them, there is today a stand of 1,668 billion feet of saw timber. It is being depleted by cutting, fire, insects, and diseases at the rate of 59 billion feet a year *or six times the annual growth*. This gives special significance and value to national forest timber, which is cut under methods which leave areas in such productive condition that industries and towns



Rock Creek Lake.

F-189251



F-270873

Picnicking on a camp site improved by the Forest Service.

dependent on those industries may have a continuous life. Unfortunately, the greater part of the forest land in private ownership has in the past been handled with little regard to permanence in forest production, industries, or communities.

STREAMFLOW

Forest cover, adequately maintained, helps to regulate stream-flow and control erosion and silting. Irrigation water is largely the lifeblood of agriculture on 19½ million acres, valued, with buildings and machinery, at more than 4 billion dollars in 19 Western States. The irrigation systems, including reservoirs, through which water flows, are valued at 1 billion dollars. The amount of water and the time of year at which it is delivered are vital to success with crops; freedom from silt reduces upkeep and prolongs the life of the irrigation system.

Practically every major stream west of the Great Plains, and most of the minor ones as well, head in the national forests, where watershed protection by the maintenance of adequate forest or vegetative cover is a major objective. Eastern national forests are similarly situated with respect to Eastern streams.

Protection of watershed areas is, therefore, a matter of vital importance to the economic and social life of our Nation.

RECREATION

Of all uses of the national forests and their many resources, recreation is the most popular. Recreational use, which includes camping, hunting and fishing, hiking, saddle and pack trips, swimming, motoring, and many other outdoor activities, increased from 3 million people in 1917 to more than 34 million on the national forests in 1933. Many people lease, for a nominal sum, sites for summer homes near beautiful lakes or beside rushing streams. Others stop at public camp grounds, most of which are carefully planned and developed. Primitive areas, maintained within the national forests without roads and with no human habitations except for an occasional forest ranger station or lookout tower, offer unsurpassed recreational opportunities for those who really wish to "rough it."

ADMINISTRATION

The entire national forest enterprise is administered by the Forest Service, an integral part of the United States Department of Agriculture. The headquarters of the chief forester is in Washington.

To facilitate administration, the forests are grouped in field regions, with a regional forester, whose headquarters is centrally located, in charge of each region.

Forest supervisors are in charge of individual forests. Each forest is divided into smaller administrative units with a forest ranger in charge of each unit. Forest rangers are specially trained and selected for their jobs by competitive Civil Service examination.

NATIONAL FOREST RECEIPTS

Revenue from the national forests through the sale of timber, permits for grazing, and other uses, goes to the United States Treasury. Twenty-five percent of the gross receipts is turned over in lieu of taxes to the States and counties in which the forests are located, to be used by them for school and road purposes. An additional 10 percent of the gross receipts is used on the forests in the construction and maintenance of roads. From the fiscal years 1908 to 1933, inclusive, \$1,874,169 was distributed to 39 Montana counties.

THE DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

Butte, Anaconda, Deer Lodge, Philipsburg, are closely linked with copper, silver, gold, and manganese. The Deerlodge National Forest has a rich mining history. In this region, in some of the richest, deepest, and most famous mines in the world, operations have been carried on for more than three-quarters of a century; and will be, it is probable, for centuries to come, as there are still enormous unworked ore bodies in the vicinity of the "Perch of the Devil", as the city of Butte is known.



Echo Lake.

F-272346.



F-247626

Part of Butte's famous "Hill", with its copper mines.

The Continental Divide—"Roof of the World"—with alpine lakes and flora; semidesert, with cactus and greasewood; rugged mountains, soft-clothed in green; the sweep of broad valleys and gold-brown prairies; solitudes and silences; the hum of the largest and busiest city in the State—all these contrasts, and more, may be found in or adjacent to the Deerlodge.

Lying in Granite, Deer Lodge, Powell, Silver Bow, Jefferson, and Madison Counties, this forest embraces 1,329,841 acres, of which 179,062 are in private ownership. It contributes timber for mines, firewood for local homes, shelter and sanctuary for big game. From heights atop the Continental Divide, its waters flow east through the Missouri, west through the Clark Fork—in them may be seen the leap of mountain trout. Beside sparkling lakes are costly summer homes and attractive public camp grounds; on some of its meadows, deer and elk may be seen; on others, domestic herds tended by dairymen who still follow the customs of their Swiss, Italian, and Austrian parents.

Ugly mountain sides, on which stand dead forests for miles, are mute evidence of deadly, devastating fumes from smelters that furnish copper to the world. These slopes now stand outside the national forest. They have been exchanged for green ones farther away, in recognition of the fact that industry and its smelters bid fair to furnish livelihood to thousands of workers for decades to come.

HISTORY

The early history of the region now included in the Deerlodge National Forest is almost entirely a record of mining developments. The first gold discovery in Montana was in the Gold Creek-Pioneer district north of the town of Deer Lodge, in 1858. The early placer diggings on Gold Creek at Pioneer, Gold Hill, and Yam Hill were extensive and rich and still present an interesting field for the students of early-day gold mining methods.

Other discoveries of gold within and adjacent to the present national forest followed the first one in rapid succession, in

and near what is now Butte, in 1864, at German Gulch, French Gulch, Moosetown, Highland City, and along the Flint Creek Valley.

The history of the middle and late 60's is replete with details of hardship, adventure, heroism, and banditry characteristic of pioneer placer mining days. Many of these placer camps are now ghost towns where one may wander through deserted streets and enter abandoned houses, picturing exciting days now past.

Following the placer days came a period of extensive gold and silver quartz mining. In its day the Cable Mine, west of Anaconda, was one of the richest gold mines on the continent. Now it is worked out and abandoned, with its comfortable houses and large buildings standing empty.

On Rock Creek, almost at the western edge of the forest, are extensive sapphire mines, which produce gems and industrial stones used for watch jewels, cutting stones, and abrasives.

Butte began early to assume the proportions of a modern metropolis. But here, as the mines reached greater depths, the gold and silver gave way to zinc and copper ores which were at first regarded as valueless. A widespread exodus took place, and Butte was filled with vacant buildings until the courage of Clark, Daly, Haggin, and their associates brought out methods to utilize the baser ores. And, of these, copper proved the most valuable.

A direct result of all this mining activity is the unusual degree to which this rough mountain country has been penetrated by roads, over most of which the motorist can still drive. More than one summer vacation can be filled with interesting and exciting explorations of abandoned mining camps.

ADMINISTRATION AND PROTECTION

Headquarters of the forest supervisor is in the Federal Building at Butte, on the main line of the Northern Pacific, the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific, the Oregon Short Line (a branch of the Union Pacific), and a branch of the Great Northern. Butte is also served by improved highways leading east, west, north, and south. To provide adequate protection from fire and properly to administer its many resources, this national forest is divided into six ranger districts. Headquarters for each district, all of which may be reached by automobile, are located at:

Philipsburg,
Anaconda,
Deer Lodge,

Butte,
Whitehall,
Basin.

The spread of fire, be it in the forest or the city, bears a direct relationship to the time which elapses between the start of the fire and its corral. Twenty-five years of experience and experimentation have proved that the first burning period, i. e., the time between start and 10 a. m., the next morning, is the critical period for forest fires in Montana. If, in other words, forest fires can be controlled during the first burning period, they can be kept small and inexpensive; if not, size, damage, and costs increase by leaps and bounds.

In order to overcome that delay which breeds disaster, to permit that speed of attack which is essential to adequate protection of resources, forest fires must be discovered and reported immediately.

The Deerlodge National Forest is fortunate in this respect. It is, on the whole, readily accessible by means of existing roads, far more so than most national forests in western Mon-

tana and northern Idaho. It has a larger number of residents whose homes are widely distributed within or near its boundaries.

But most fortunate of all is the fact that these residents, the majority of whom make almost daily use of the forest and its resources, are imbued with a keen sense of personal and public responsibility that manifests itself immediately and in no uncertain terms whenever *their* forest is threatened.

This makes the usual method of detection and report of fires by lookouts connected with telephone lines to rangers and firemen, unnecessary on all but a small portion of the Deerlodge. For that responsibility is assumed as a matter of personal and civic pride by resident forest users.

Just how effective is this cooperation may be judged from the record of 1929, the worst fire year experienced in Montana since the holocausts of 1910, in which more than 2½ million acres were laid waste and 87 known human lives were sacrificed to relentless flames.

In that year, 92 percent of the fires on the Deerlodge Forest were discovered and reported first by local residents and forest users.

And planned organization, including reserves of equipment with men trained to fight fire and ready day and night for instant action, completed in good shape the most vital work of fire suppression.

MINING

Legitimate mining on the national forests has been, and may be, carried on under the usual mining laws and regulations. The prospector may stake his claim within national forest boundaries as readily and easily as elsewhere.

Mining operations must, however, be legitimate; mining laws and regulations must be observed honestly and in good faith. National forest land cannot be occupied, nor can title to it be acquired under the guise of fraudulent locations or insufficient discoveries, or in bad faith. By way of example, the courts



Sheep range on the forest.

F-220673

have held that it is bad faith to attempt to hold a mining claim primarily for its timber or because it is most valuable for water-power development.

Determination of questions involving title to unperfected claims in national forests is within the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior, but since the administration of the national forests is a duty imposed by law upon the Secretary of Agriculture, all claims within the national forests are examined by the Forest Service. Information thus obtained is placed at the disposal of the Secretary of the Interior.

GRAZING OF DOMESTIC STOCK

Within or adjacent to almost every western forest area are agricultural communities whose prosperity is dependent upon livestock. The principal production of many western farms is hay or other feed crops. Without the aid of additional summer feed from forest areas, a large proportion of these farms and of agricultural communities would never have reached their present stage of development; and could not, in all probability, maintain that development.

One of the most striking illustrations of the contribution made by national forest forage to stability in ranch values and social and economic development of communities is to be found in Montana.

Here, in an area which embraces 29 counties, are certain cultivated and other lands that total slightly more than 5 million acres. Their main product is livestock, which is dependent upon nearby national forests for summer range. The lands in question are valued at close to 38 million dollars. To this figure may be added 10 million for the livestock and 7 million more for buildings, fences, machinery, and equipment. The investment totals, therefore, close to 55 million dollars; more than one-fifth (20 percent) of the total 1930 assessed valuation for *all* irrigated and nonirrigated tillable lands (and their improvements), horses, mules, cattle, sheep, and farm machinery within the 29 counties.

The integrity of these ranches and the investments they represent, the social and economic welfare of more than 5,000 people who live and work upon them and of others who, in nearby towns, count upon ranch trade for a livelihood, all depend in part upon national forest forage.

In valleys adjacent to the Deerlodge National Forest are some 300 ranches. So, since national forest forage must be administered and used in a manner to assure the greatest good to the greatest number in the long run, privileges are granted first to local owners who are permanently established, who have stabilized operations, and who are most dependent upon forest range. In this way the smaller stock growers and agricultural home builders are aided. Each grazing permit specifies the number of stock, the portion of the range to be used, and the season within which it may be used.

Approximately 60 percent of the net acreage of the Deerlodge National Forest contributes, through the grazing of livestock, to the social and economic welfare of nearby ranches and communities. There is, however, more local domestic stock than this forest range will support. And there is big game—also an asset with national, State, and local values—for which forage must be provided.

**Forests mean health and wealth—protect them from
fire**



F-195374

Rocky Mountain mule deer.

BIG GAME AND WINTER RANGE

Records of such early explorers as Lewis and Clark (1804-5), David Thompson (1808), and Ross Cox (1812), bear witness to the fact that Montana once supported herds of big game that, for variety and numbers, exceeded anything ever seen except on the plains of East Africa.

The natural habitat of those immense herds of buffalo, elk, antelope, and deer was then the plains, prairies, and valleys of eastern Montana. There, with unlimited grass, light snows,

which permitted game to reach the grass in winter, as well as in summer, and cottonwood groves, which provided shelter, the game fed and grew fat.

Conditions in the mountains, then, were radically different from those in valleys and on plains. In the mountains game was so scarce that Lewis and Clark were obliged to kill wild horses and domestic colts for food. David Thompson considered himself fortunate when he "traded (from Indians), 12 singed muskrats and two shoulders of an antelope, thankful for a change from the moss bread, which gave us all the belly ache."

Montana's big game has today been reduced to but a fraction of its former numbers. And conditions recorded by those early explorers are reversed: more than four-fifths of our big game is now in the mountains.

Its natural habitat—the plains and valleys with feed so ample and snows so light that winter as well as summer feed was assured—has been appropriated by man. Game remnants, driven to areas of high elevations and heavy snowfall in the national forests, have an abundance of succulent summer feed, but winter range, on high snow-swept grassy ridges and in sheltered groves and strips of aspen, cottonwood, willow, and similar browse near stream courses, is scarce. So in winters of heavy or crusted snow, deer and elk are forced to lower elevations.

In the national forests, grazing of domestic livestock on summer ranges is regulated; carrying capacities have been maintained or increased; Federal and State agencies have cooperated in game-law enforcement and in control of predatory animals; numbers of big-game animals have increased 40 percent (in all national forests) between the years 1926-31.

In Montana this game numbered, according to 1933 estimates, more than 50,000 deer, 20,000 elk, 1,800 moose, 1,800 mountain sheep, 4,200 mountain goats, 5,800 black bear, and 400 grizzly bear. These animals constitute an important and a valuable resource, one which returns an annual income of more than \$1,100,000. And if to this figure is added the value of meat and hides and the sums spent by sportsmen and others interested in fur-bearing animals, fishing, and the hunting of birds, the total mounts to more than \$3,125,000 annually.

Properly to maintain the present numbers of big game, more winter range is necessary. It would be poor management indefinitely to increase range used exclusively by wild game at the expense of established and worth-while industries, but it is unthinkable that industry should be permitted to crowd out Montana's wild-game resources. Both are vital to social and economic welfare.

National forest forage must, therefore, be administered and used in a manner which will assure the greatest good to both. Fortunately there is no real conflict between domestic stock and big game on truly summer range. But this is not the case in some localities on range which, though it may be capable of use by cattle or sheep in the summer, is essential if big game is to be kept from starvation during severe winters.

This condition presents a problem in the solution of which adjustments and compromises between domestic stock and big game have been and must be made.

Lack of ample winter range has been and promises to be a major factor in limiting the numbers of big game. The rel-

Every forest fire means less water for stream flow and domestic use



F-201058

Mine timbers and cordwood cut on a Forest Service timber sale.

actively large population, together with no limitations on hunters' licenses, has also decreased the numbers of game animals (but not the variety) found on the Deerlodge Forest.

Rocky Mountain mule deer is common to this forest. Elk are in several large bands which graze the higher hills in summer. In winter it is not unusual to see herds of one or two hundred grazing within a mile or two of the main highways. Moose are widely scattered, and may be seen in almost any portion of the forest. Occasionally, in the fall, an irate bull contests the right of way with hikers and horsemen.

Alpine peaks west of Anaconda are inhabited by mountain goats. It is possible to leave Butte in the morning, see large numbers of these interesting cliff dwellers, and return in the evening without undue hardship or exertion. Few mountain sheep remain, but there are small bands still to be found on Powell Mountain and on the slopes of Mount Haggin.

The State law permits hunting in season on all parts of the forest. Forest officers record and keep up to date a game census, based on the most accurate estimates possible. They also make plans for game preservation and perpetuation. Every forest ranger is a special deputy game warden and has full power to enforce the State game laws.

TIMBER

The national forests of Montana contain 30 billion feet of saw timber, or 60 percent of the total timber in the State. The estimated stand on the Deerlodge is about 1 billion board feet. Annual growth will permit the removal of about 15 million feet yearly without depletion of the total stand. Annual cut from this forest is normally about 5 million feet, most of it being used in mining and related activities.

The various jobs connected with the logging and manufacture of this timber are a means of livelihood for many workers. Lodgepole pine, used for poles, stulls, and in a limited way for saw timber, is the principal timber species. Douglas fir and Engelmann spruce are cut to some extent, mainly for saw timber.

One of the timber activities not common in other places at this time is the making of charcoal. In normal years, several thousand cords of wood annually are made into charcoal in the vicinity of Basin. It is used in the refining of copper, principally at Great Falls.

National forest timber is made available in three ways. The first is through free use, which is granted to local people, for all dead and down timber and some green material, when it may be removed for the improvement of the forest in the form of thinnings or improvement cuttings. The second is through sales at cost, to settlers and ranchers adjacent to the forest, for their own use. The third method is through commercial sale. This, of course, accounts for the largest part of the annual cut.

When a tract of national forest timber is to be offered for sale, it is first cruised to determine the amount and species involved. The next step is a careful appraisal. Logging and milling costs are closely estimated and the sale value of the lumber product determined from available records. With these figures at hand, a stumpage value is determined which will allow a reasonable profit to the operator. The timber is then advertised at the determined minimum price, and the sale is awarded to the highest bidder. Small amounts of timber may be sold on appraisal without advertising.

Sale contracts provide for measures to leave the area in productive condition, including selective cutting, leaving of seed trees, fire precautionary measures, and slash disposal. All timber is scaled by forest officers and stumpage payments are required from the purchaser in advance of cutting.

RECREATION

The Deerlodge Forest is, in truth, a playground for people who live near its borders. Particularly is this true for residents of Butte, Anaconda, Deer Lodge, and Philipsburg. To it they flock by the thousands, finding innumerable delightful spots under the cool shade of forest trees in which to picnic and pass lazy, restful days.



Comfortable and inviting—a summer home on the forest.

F-270878

Topography is varied and interesting. Gently rolling hills and broad, shallow valleys, murmuring trout-filled streams and placid alpine lakes, rugged, rocky cliffs, verdant mountain meadows, all may be found and enjoyed.

This forest is noted for its summer homes. Hundreds dot the shores of the more attractive lakes or nestle beside stream courses; houses and cabins built by city dwellers who, with their families, spend vacations and week-ends away from care and routine incident to business life. And for campers who have their own equipment, the Forest Service is developing recreation grounds in attractive places where sanitation facilities, stoves, and tables are provided. Use of these improved camp grounds is encouraged and people are requested to cooperate by helping to keep camps clean and attractive and by preserving the improvements.

Georgetown Lake is a particularly popular place. Boating is enjoyable, and the fish-spawning station is a sight no one should miss. In April and May, at the height of the season, traps are filled to capacity with rainbow, greyling, and black-spotted trout, and the stream below literally boils with fish weighing up to 6 and 8 pounds each, all fighting to get upstream. This station, it is said, regularly produces a world's record number of spawn.

PUBLIC HEALTH

All forest users are asked to help protect the public health. State laws, as well as the regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture, require the exercise of precautions necessary to accomplish this purpose. At improved camps the toilets and garbage receptacles provided must always be used. Where these conveniences have not been provided, all refuse, tin cans, and discarded material must be burned or buried. No waste of any kind should ever be thrown into streams or where it may be washed into streams or springs. Grounds used for camping or picnicking must be kept sightly; papers, cans, or trash should not be left scattered about. Good manners are as desirable outdoors as in the home.

FOREST FIRES

The 20 million acres of Federal, State, and private timberland in Montana have always held an important place in the normal industrial life of the State. Even in times of stress they have supplied shelter to the homeless, fuel and wood to the unemployed, jobs to the jobless, and an inspiration to those who have become disheartened and discouraged.

It is an inescapable fact that in the past these forests have been treated carelessly. For from 1908 to 1930, more than 2,900,000 forested acres were burned, at a loss in resources of 14 million dollars. During this period more than 17,500 individual forest fires were reported and 27 human lives were sacrificed in suppressing them.

Man, carelessly or wantonly, was responsible for 65 percent of these fires—for an average of 525 preventable forest fires each year.

Realizing that this huge drain upon vital resources must not be continued, more than a thousand public-spirited Montanans have banded together as did the vigilante committees of pioneer days. Appointed as volunteer fire wardens, operating with all the powers of the fire and forest laws of their State and backed by State criminal procedure applicable in the enforcement of those laws, these citizens have donated their influence and their services to the common good.



F-238973

What fire does to the forest.

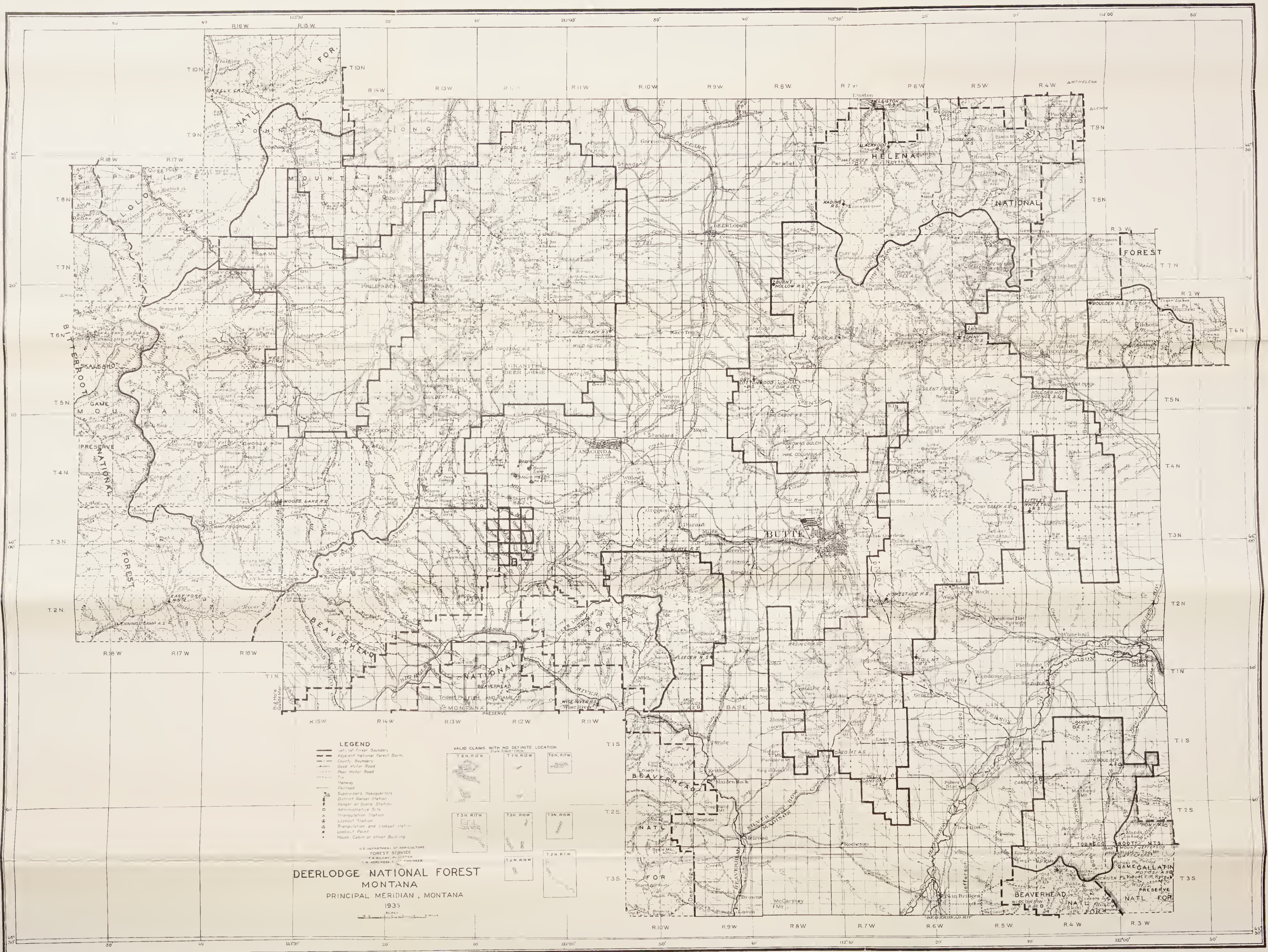
Concentrating their efforts upon EDUCATION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT, they have helped to a marked degree in stamping out incendiarism and in bringing home to campers, tourists, and fishermen the lesson of CARE WITH FIRE IN THE FORESTS.

YOU, TOO, CAN HELP. Remember that because of the values involved and the services which the Deerlodge National Forest can perform *so long as its forest cover is kept green*, certain precautions during the period of extreme fire hazard are necessary.

So as you start on your trip, be it for a week, a month, or a day, remember to—

- (a) Have a shovel, ax, and water bucket in your car (or your pack train) before you enter the forest.
- (b) Stop first at a ranger (or guard) station. If the season is hot or dry, it may be necessary to get a permit to enter the forest or to build camp fires, or both. *These regulations will be effective only when necessary for the protection of life, property, and values which might otherwise be endangered by carelessness with fire.*
- (c) When you see a fire, put it out if you possibly can. When you have put it out (or immediately on discovery, if it is too big for you to control), report it to the nearest forest officer, by phone or special trip.
- (d) Remember, and practice the woodsman's code or "Six Rules for the Prevention of Fire in the Forests."

The resources of the Deerlodge National Forest are for your use and enjoyment—help protect them from damage and destruction by fire.



LEGEND

- National Forest Boundary
- - - County Boundary
- == Good Motor Road
- Poor Motor Road
- Trail
- Railway
- Supervisor's Headquarters
- District Ranger Station
- Ranger or Guard Station
- Administrative Site
- Triangulation Station
- Lookout Station
- Lookout Point
- House, Cabin or other Building

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
F. A. BILCOFF, DISTRICT FORESTER
T. W. HODGSON, CHIEF ENGINEER

DEER LODGE NATIONAL FOREST
MONTANA
PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, MONTANA
1933

SCALE 1" = 1 MILE

VALID CLAIMS WITH NO DEFINITE LOCATION

T1N, R12W	T1N, R12W	T1N, R12W
T1N, R17W	T1N, R16W	T1N, R15W
T2N, R17W	T2N, R16W	T2N, R15W
T2N, R17W	T2N, R16W	T2N, R15W

Six Rules for the Prevention of Fire in the Forest

1. **MATCHES.**—Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before you throw it away.

2. **TOBACCO.**—During the dangerous fire season, smoke only in camp or at places of habitation. Be sure pipe ashes and cigar or cigarette stubs are dead before throwing them away. Never throw them into brush, leaves, or needles.

3. **MAKING CAMP.**—First make sure whether a camp-fire permit is required. Before building a fire scrape away all inflammable material from a spot 5 feet in diameter. Dig a hole in the center and in it build your camp fire. Keep your fire small and never build it against trees, logs, or near brush.

4. **BREAKING CAMP.**—Never break camp until your fire is out—dead out. Leaving any unextinguished fire is dangerous as well as unlawful.

5. **BRUSH BURNING.**—Never burn slash or brush in windy weather or while there is the slightest danger that the fire will get away.

6. **HOW TO PUT OUT A CAMP FIRE.**—Stir the coals while soaking them with water. Turn small sticks and drench both sides. Wet the ground around the fire. If you can't get water, stir in earth and tread it down until packed tight over and around the fire. Be sure the last spark is dead.

SIX SUGGESTIONS FOR SPORTSMEN

1. **Be a real sportsman.**—There is more honor in giving the game a square deal than in getting the limit. Stay within the game laws.

2. **Make sure it's a deer.**—If you can't see for certain, don't shoot. It might be a man or a rancher's domestic animal.

3. **Help to enforce the game laws.**—Game and fish are public property; only a game hog will take more than his fair and legal share. Violations should be reported to the nearest deputy warden, forest ranger, or game protective association.

4. **Respect the rancher's property.**—If you never go back, some brother sportsman will. The privileges of hunting and fishing on the rancher's premises is a *real* privilege and should be treated as such. Close his gates; be careful where you shoot; don't tear down his fences, trample his crops, or do any other damage. Thus will your sport increase and your conscience be easy.

5. **Be careful with your matches.**—One tree will make a million matches; one match can burn a million trees and destroy game animals and fish.

6. **Leave a clean camp and a clean record.**—Unburied garbage, crippled game, and broken laws are poor monuments to any sportsman.